

[12th September 1959]

Q.—SRI K. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Textile Mills remaining closed as on 30th April 1959 in our State;

(b) the reasons for their closure; and

(c) the steps taken to reopen them?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) Four Mills, They are—

(i) Kaleeswarar Mills,

(ii) Sri Mahaganapathy Mills,

(iii) Edward Textiles; and

(iv) Viswam Mills.

(b) In the case of Kaleeswarar Mills, Edward Textiles and Viswam Mills, the closure was due to loss in working and in the case of Sri Mahaganapathy Mills, it was due to lack of finance.

(c) In the case of Kaleeswarar Mills a scheme was prepared for taking over the Mills by Government on lease and submitted to the High Court. Two other schemes were prepared by private parties also. But all the three schemes were not acceptable to the High Court. The efforts of the Government were therefore not successful. As regards Sri Mahaganapathy Mills, attempts were made to contact the Managing Agent and to induce him to reopen the Mills. Discussions were also held with the Labour Union. But due to insurmountable financial difficulties the Mills could not be reopened. In regard to the other two Mills, no dispute was raised over the closure and as such, no action was taken to get them reopened.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : It is now 9-30. You may close the question hour.

MR. SPEAKER : There is one minute more. I thank the hon. Member for reminding me in time. (Laughter).

Neiveli Project.

* 382 Q.—SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : } Will
SRI S. PAKKIRISAMI PILLAI : }
the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the progress of implementation of the Integrated Lignite Project of Neiveli as it stands up to date; and

(b) the stage at which the following schemes of the project are :

(i) the mining scheme,

(ii) the thermal power station scheme,

(iii) fertiliser schemes; and

(iv) briquetting and carbonising scheme?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : A statement ^a is placed on the table of the House.